GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2575
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
COMPUTERS IN SCHOOLS
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the Government are aware that many schools are being deprived of having Computer Software donated by Microsoft Company due to non-availability of computers;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide the knowledge of IT to the students (specially poor) living in rural areas;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to provide computers to the schools located in the rural areas so that they can get acquainted with the knowledge of IT; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) Yes Sir. One of the requirements for supply of the Software donated by Microsoft Company is that School must have necessary hardware (Computers)

(b), (c) and (d): Government has initiated a Pilot Project `Vidya Vahini` to integrate technological tools and internet in the learning environment. The focus of the project is to use computer aided learning techniques to develop and train the faculty to impart education to students, teachers and encourage them to develop course content and lessons in the digital form. The emphasis is to develop and provide content in the local language. About 140 Government schools in the rural and semi- urban areas in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and West Bengal are being provided necessary infrastructure including computers.

The Department of Secondary and Higher Education under Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched a revised Computer Literacy and Studies in the Schools (CLASS) Programme under which the States/UT Governments would be provided necessary assistance for equipping the Schools with Computer hardware and software.